



MANOA NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 7

c/o NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION • 530 SOUTH KING STREET ROOM 406 • HONOLULU, HAWAII, 96813
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MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7, 2006 MANOA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CAFETERIA

CALL TO ORDER: Vice Chair Harwood called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. with a quorum of 11 members present after the late arrival of 3 members; 9 needed for a quorum. At this time, Vice Chair Harwood introduced the members of the Board as well as the guests in attendance.

MEMBERS PRESENT: George Nakano, Salvatore Lanzilotti, Hank Chapin, Paul Holtrop, Jeff McNeill, Chuck Pearson, Jim Harwood, Brian Kessler, Gary Andersen, Dwight Jackson, and Milton Ragsdale.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Nadine Nishioka

GUESTS: Hubert Minn (Mayor's Representative); Joan Manke (Executive Secretary, Neighborhood Commission); Poni Daines (Senator Taniguchi's Office staff); Jim Manke, Jan Yokota, Glen Miura, and Wayne Iwaoka (University of Hawaii Manoa); Larry Reifurth (Governor's Representative); Representative Kirk Caldwell; Captain J. Whalen (Honolulu Fire Department); Maj. Mark Nakagawa, Lt. Gerrit Kurihara, Det. C. Enoka, Sgt. M. Nakada, Officer Jason Hendricks, Officer Colin Chung (Honolulu Police Department); Grace Furukawa, Cindy Ramirez, Tom Heinrich, Bob Farrell, Ivonne Cardenas (Makakilo.com); Pat Lee (Consultant for Honolulu Alternative Mass Transit); Su Shinn (Board of Water Supply); Carolyn Ching, Sanford Ching, Chris Niemzyck, Taylor Rock, Wayne Iwasaka, Brandon Mitsuda, Rose Niimoto, Sharon Dumas, Chris McCormick, Ross Kamakahi, Cindy Ramirez, Joey Manahan (Neighborhood Commission Office staff).

PUBLIC SAFETY INPUT:

HONOLULU FIRE DEPARTMENT (HFD) – Capt. Whalen distributed his report and highlighted the following:

1. Statistics for the month of May included mostly calls for medical--no calls for fire were received.
2. Community Relations:

Fire Safety Tip: Brush fire season is here, so remember to maintain a 30-foot wide clearing in between any structure and vegetation. Recent rains may have overgrown vegetation in some breaks.

With Independence Day around the corner, consider leaving fireworks to the professionals and enjoy one of the many fireworks displays around town. If you use fireworks, follow all warnings and instructions. Young children should never be given fireworks. Older children should only use fireworks under the direct supervision of an adult. Have a happy and safe Independence Day celebration!

Vice Chair Harwood thanked Capt. Whalen for attending the meeting.

Members Hank Chapin, George Nakano and Salvatore Lanzilotti arrived at this time.

HONOLULU POLICE DEPARTMENT (HPD) – Major Mark Nakagawa distributed the monthly statistics and reported the following:

1. Nakagawa was assigned to district seven on March 19, and he will be visiting the Board periodically to hear first –hand residents' concerns. HPD is working to address speeding and traffic flow issues in the district as well as graffiti.
2. Officer Hendricks reported on HPD efforts to address crime in the Diamond Head and Waikiki Beach areas of Honolulu. He presented statistics on arrests and caseloads for the area.

Questions, answers, and comments:

1. Member McNeill asked for clarification on the statistics that Officer Hendricks read. In response Officer Hendricks clarified the information he just gave was general information regarding HPD efforts to address crime on public beaches. The information is not in the District 7 report.
2. Member Kessler requested that Kim Capeon, a representative from Crimestoppers, report and update the Board on graffiti: a) Capeon encouraged community involvement and support for paint outs and other efforts. b) Community involvement is essential in addressing graffiti, since many of walls and areas that are painted are within private property. c) Capeon attended a City Council hearing that explored the alternative of putting up a wall that is dedicated to graffiti. d) Crimestoppers may be reached by calling 955-8300, and rewards are given for arrests that are made.
3. Member Pearson reported an incident of a driver using a cell phone and running over a median. Pearson gave arguments in support of legislation banning the use of cell phones while driving and hopes the Legislature takes the issue up in the coming session.
4. Member McNeill reported speeding on Oahu Avenue between Maile Way and East Manoa Road. He also reported on parking problems in the area and stated cars are only towed when someone calls. McNeill reported cars are being broken into and alarms are a nuisance.
5. In response to member Andersen's question regarding the noise factor in the use of mopeds, Officer Hendricks explained that each case needs to be looked at individually. If the rider is using the moped at a reasonable time and the moped is not modified, then HPD will not usually take action. However if HPD witnesses any violations of the law, they will take action.

Vice Chair Harwood thanked HPD for attending the meeting.

The agenda was taken out of order at this time in order to fill vacancies.

FILLING OF VACANCIES AND ELECTION OF BOARD OFFICERS FOR THE TERM JUNE 2006 THROUGH MAY 2007:

Vice Chair Harwood announced that there are two vacancies in subdistrict 2, one in subdistrict 3, and two in subdistrict 4. He invited the candidates for subdistrict 2 to introduce themselves and say a few words to the Board:

Subdistrict 2:

Rose Niimoto introduced herself as a resident of subdistrict two. Her family has lived in Manoa for 50 years, and she would like to serve on the Board and is interested in flood mitigation efforts as they pertain to Manoa.

Taylor Rock introduced himself as a resident of subdistrict two. He has lived in Manoa for the past year and in Hawaii for the past four years. He is originally from Rhode Island, and he is a graduate student at the University of Hawaii who is studying civil engineering.

Rose Niimoto and Taylor Rock were unanimously elected to fill the remaining vacancies in subdistrict 2.

Vice Chair Harwood called a recess. The Neighborhood Assistant (NA) administered the oath of office to Niimoto and Rock, and the meeting was resumed.

Subdistrict 3:

Vice Chair Harwood invited the candidates for the single vacancy in subdistrict 3 to introduce themselves and say a few words to the Board:

Ross Kamakahi introduced himself as a resident of subdistrict 3. Kamakahi is an advocate for the improvement of the quality of life in the University of Hawaii, and he would like to expand his scope into the community and the valley. Kamakahi is from Hawaii and has resided in the valley for years.

Brandon Mitsuda introduced himself as a resident of subdistrict 3. Mitsuda has lived in Manoa all his life. He attended Noelani Elementary School and the University Of Washington. He interned with Senator Taniguchi and Mitsuda is currently employed by Council Chair, Donovan Dela Cruz. Mitsuda is looking forward to working in the community to improve the quality of life while addressing issues important to the community.

Discussion followed:

In response to Member Andersen's question regarding student status, Kamakahi replied he is currently attending the University as a graduate student. Mitsuda stated he has completed his studies.

McNeill nominated Kamakahi. Lanzilotti nominated Mitsuda.

Discussion followed:

Area resident Chris Niemczyk introduced himself as a candidate in subdistrict 4. He is active in the University and the community and would like to serve on the Board as a representative of subdistrict 4.

Subdistrict 4:

Andersen nominated Niemczyk. McNeill seconded. Niemczyk was unanimously elected to represent subdistrict 4.

Vice Chair Harwood called a recess. The Neighborhood Assistant (NA) administered the oath of office to Niemczyk, and the meeting was resumed.

Subdistrict 3 (cont'd):

Vice Chair Harwood called for a vote to fill the vacancy in subdistrict 3. The two nominations on the floor are for Kamakahi and Mitsuda.

A vote was taken which resulted in a 6-7 split of the Board: (For Kamakahi: Niemczyk, McNeill, Nakano, Rock, Ragsdale, and Chapin. For Mitsuda: Jackson, Andersen, Pearson, Kessler, Holtrop, Harwood, Lanzilotti). Neither candidate received a majority of vote of 9 members, which is required to carry a motion or nomination.

Discussion followed:

1. Member Chapin explained that the majority rules process of the Board is contingent to the number of seats of the Board rather than the number of members present, which is what is creating the impasse.
2. Member Lanzilotti introduced Joan Manke, the Executive Secretary of the Neighborhood Commission.
3. Vice Chair Harwood suggested deferring the election for the next meeting. Member Lanzilotti suggested taking another vote in the interest of moving forward. Member McNeill suggested that taking another vote on the same motion would be a violation of Robert's Rules. Vice Chair Harwood explained that the motion is undecided and still open.
4. Member Pearson clarified that there are five seats in subdistrict 3.

Vice Chair Harwood called for the vote. Mitsuda was elected 9-5. (Mitsuda: Kessler, Pearson, Harwood, Holtrop, Jackson, Niimoto, Lanzilotti, Rock and Andersen. Kamakahi: McNeill, Chapin, Nakano, Ragsdale, and Niemczyk.)

Vice Chair Harwood called a short recess and the NA administered the oath of office to Mitsuda.

For Chair: Pearson nominated Nishioka to serve as Chair. Lanzilotti seconded. Nishioka was unanimously elected to serve as Chair.

For Secretary: Vice Chair Harwood explained the duties of the Board Secretary. Andersen nominated Mitsuda. Kessler seconded. Mitsuda accepted and was unanimously elected to serve as secretary of the Board.

For the current slate of officers: Vice Chair Harwood explained the current slate of officers consists of Vice Chair Harwood, Second Vice Chair Pearson, and Treasurer Holtrop. Lanzilotti nominated the current slate of officers, and they were unanimously elected to serve as officers of the Board.

COMMUNITY INPUT:

MAYOR'S REPRESENTATIVE—Hubert Minn, Deputy Director, Customer Services Department, distributed Mayor Hannemann's newsletter and highlighted the following:

1. Member Gary Andersen would like to know what happened to the \$8 - \$11 million earmarked for the elephant enclosure at the Honolulu Zoo. The money was appropriated but it was not spent on the enclosure as intended. (Anderson said he doesn't see any structure for the elephants so he wants to know what's the status.)
2. Member Holtrop would like an update on the status of the City's efforts to comply with EPA standards and federal mandates to fix the City's sewer system in general as well as the Waikiki Beachwalk bypass project.
3. Area resident Tom Heinrich would like to know the status and scope of work involved with flood mitigation efforts and the stream maintenance plan.
4. Member Pearson would like a status update for design and construction work for Kamanele Park and Triangle Park. Pearson would like to know when the work is scheduled for completion and when construction equipment and supplies will be removed.
5. Vice Chair Harwood would like to know what can the community do from a legal stand point to encourage or compel private homeowners to paint over graffiti on their property.
6. Member Andersen would like to know a) what other municipalities do to keep track of paint sales especially spray paints--b) is there graffiti-proof paint.
7. Vice Chair Harwood reported a large area of overgrown brush on City property at the five-way intersection where Oahu, Woodlawn, and Manoa Roads meet.
8. Vice Chair Harwood would like an update on the status of work at Manoa Valley District Park's parking lot on Kai'ipo Drive. Specifically, Harwood would like to know why the completion date has been postponed and why the budget for the project has doubled.

9. Member Mitsuda would like the placement of a Dead End sign that is not clearly visible on Keama Place to be re-evaluated by the City Department of Transportation Services (DTS). Mitsuda suggested that the sign should be moved to a more appropriate place to deter cars from attempting to pass through despite there being no outlet. Mitsuda raised safety concerns for children playing on the street.
10. Minn advised the Board to call him at the City Department of Customer Services regarding any complaints for the City rather than waiting for the meeting to bring up these issues. The City would be able to address these issues much faster.

Vice Chair Harwood thanked Minn for attending the meeting.

REPRESENTATIVE KIRK CALDWELL—Representative Caldwell distributed his report and highlighted the following: 1) The summary of bills that were forwarded to the Governor for her signature or veto. 2) Identified the property owners who have been victimized by graffiti across Punahou School. He suggested planting hedges to prevent any future incidents. 3) Feral pig problems meetings will be held by the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) in the coming months. 4) Senator Taniguchi was able to get flood relief for victims of the Manoa Flood through tax credits. 5) The Legislature appropriated \$250 million dollars for education. 6) \$90 million will be spent in Manoa for improvements in the University and the community. 7) There are many laws the Legislature passed that protect children from internet predators and bills that protect against identity theft. 8) His legislation pertaining to speeding has passed.

The Board discussed various measures pertaining to gas caps, speeding, and smoking in public. Member Lanzilotti supported legislation pertaining to preventative measures to help at-risk children and youth, but he did not support the penalties and fines in the legislation pertaining to speeding. Member Kessler stated that gas caps will not solve the pricing problems, and a more permanent solution is needed.

Vice Chair Harwood thanked Representative Caldwell for attending the meeting.

TRANSIT CORRIDOR—Pat Lee, independent consultants for Parsons Brinkerhoff distributed a pamphlet with information regarding the alternative mass transit system containing updates on the transit corridor study. Lee would like to present project schedules at future meetings and give the Board updates on the project. For more information please visit www.honolulutransit.org.

GOVERNOR'S REPRESENTATIVE – Larry Reifurth, Director of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (DCCA), distributed the Governor's newsletter highlighted the following: 1) The Governor acknowledged the Legislature's efforts on tax relief and energy issues. The Governor would have liked to have seen more done for these issues, but she is calling it a good first step. Reifurth also highlighted the Governor's 20/20 plan that strives to have 20% renewable energy sources by the year 2020. 2) Gave legislative updates on bills relating to identity theft and explained precautions that the State and City are taking in order to protect the public. Reifurth also stated that DCCA spearheaded the introduction of

identity theft measures into the Legislature. 3) Updated on the procurement of PEG services for Olelo. The request from DCCA for exemption from the procurement process is being reviewed by the State Procurement Office (SPO). 4) Reifurth may be contacted at 586-2855 and emailed at reifurth@dcca.hawaii.gov.

Questions, answers, and comments:

1. In response to Holtrop's question regarding penalties and provisions for private right of action for laws that are violated, Reifurth replied that there are no provisions in the law for private right of action, and he would have to research and follow up on the issue of penalties. Holtrop raised concerns regarding the lack of accountability and provision in the law to seek private right of action. Reifurth explained that the law does not prevent an individual from taking action against an entity who may be in violation.
2. In response to Member Lanzilotti's question regarding the status of SB2065 relating to parking fines, Reifurth would have to research and follow up. Member Lanzilotti raised concerns regarding the law being weak, because it does not adequately address the issue of paying parking fines prior to selling a vehicle.
3. In response to member Kessler's request regarding an update on Paradise Park, Jim Manke, from the Office of the Chancellor of the University of Hawaii (UH), replied that the proposal will be submitted by mid-July.

Vice Chair Harwood thanked Reifurth for attending the meeting.

BOARD OF WATER SUPPLY (BWS) – Su Shinn, Chief Communications Officer, explained current rate increases are due to increasing cost in energy required to deliver water to homes. She explained the rate increase and the rate structure and described the rate increase as 'modest' despite the seemingly high percentage. She also explained that BWS has not raised its rates in almost ten years.

Questions, answers, and comments:

1. Member Lanzilotti asked for clarification regarding the projected rate increase. Shinn explained that the percentage seems high but the actual amount for the average consumer is estimated at three dollars a month.
2. In response to Member McNeill's question regarding revenues generated by BWS in a month, Shinn replied that BWS generates about \$100 million a year.
3. Member Pearson requested an update on the status of BWS' work at Kamanele Park and Triangle Park.
4. In response to Member Mitsuda's question regarding an explanation of the rate increase inserted in the bill, Shinn replied BWS has completed an insert that will be mailed to customers by mid September detailing the rate schedule over the next five years.

5. Member Ragsdale requested an update on the status of the work being done on Oahu Avenue.
6. Member Lanzilotti suggested that people who conserve water should be credited on their bill as a reward for their efforts. He suggested that rate increases should be proportional to usage. Shinn replied BWS is exploring that option.
7. Member Kessler requested information on what percentage of new monies generated by the rate increase would be spent on new projects.
8. In response to Member Niemczyk's question regarding BWS' efforts to maintain rates, Shinn replied that a cash reserve was established in the late 80's and early 90's by BWS for this purpose, but it has since been spent. Shinn also explained that BWS is a not for profit government agency, so it makes only what it needs to operate.
9. In response to Member Nakano's question regarding funds not being used by City agencies as intended, Shinn stated that BWS is semi-autonomous and its budget is not commingled with that of other agencies and departments in the City.

Vice Chair Harwood thanked Shinn for attending the meeting.

FREAR HALL UPDATE— Jan Yokota, Director of Capital Improvements for UH reported the following: 1) UH has submitted information to the City Department of Planning and Permitting and the City Council for their review. A series of public hearings will be heard regarding the various permit applications needed for the Frear Hall Renovation project. In order to move forward, abatement of lead-based paint and other hazardous materials has commenced and demolition is expected to begin at the end of June. 2) A website address to give status updates of the project may be accessed at: www.manoa.hawaii.edu/mco/housing. 3) Glen Miura went over site plan and added that the project has not changed much since it was last presented before the Board. Miura noted that the Board's recommendations with regards to bicycle/moped/surfboard storage and parking facilities have been taken into consideration and incorporated into the plan.

Questions, comments, and answers:

1. In response to Andersen's question regarding the Chancellor's Conference room, Miura replied the room has been renamed to the 12th floor conference room and it will be made available to faculty and students.
2. In response to Member Rock's question regarding the level of certification being pursued, Miura replied that they are currently have 32 points and are hoping to achieve silver status. Member Rock requested clarification on the EA and the amount of bed space there will be after the renovation, in response Miura replied 810 beds is the final number. Yokota noted that the parking and traffic studies were adjusted to consider these changes.

3. In response to member Andersen's question regarding the capacity of the building to withstand a hurricane, Miura replied he would have to check. In response to Andersen's question regarding the next step for the project, Yokota replied that it has to go before the City Council Zoning Committee prior to it going before the full City Council.
4. In response to Member Andersen's question regarding student reaction to the project, Iwaoka replied that there have been public hearings held especially for students, the results of which are being taken into consideration. Some recommendations will be incorporated into the design.
5. In response to member Andersen's question regarding funds to pay for Frear Hall renovations, Yokota replied money will come from a \$25 million appropriation by the Legislature as well as general obligation (GO) bonds. She replied that tuition increases will not be used to fund the project.
6. Member Mitsuda inquired about any plans to help alleviate parking issues for residents of Manoa and students. Yokota replied that UH has taken steps to address some of the issues by allowing students to park on campus on off-peak hours and weekends. Iwaoka added that UH student government has also taken steps to address the issue.
7. Member Kessler raised his concerns regarding UH's efforts to address parking issues. In his opinion, UH has done enough to encourage students to use alternative forms of transportation.
8. McNeill raised his concerns and noted that the front page of today's Honolulu Advertiser reported that UH students are not happy with the design. In addition, the proposed design is substandard in relation to a variety of measures, when compared to the current dormitory facilities on campus. In particular, the amount of square feet of common areas per student, the number of elevators per students, the laundry facilities (washers and dryers) per student.
9. Vice Chair Harwood suggested that the issue be referred to the Planning Committee.

Vice Chair Harwood thanked the presenters for attending the meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Deferred due to lack of time.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Deferred due to lack of time.

ADJOURNMENT: Without objection, the meeting was adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Submitted by:
Joey Manahan, Neighborhood Assistant